

## MEDICAL AND DENTAL PRACTITIONERS COUNCIL OF ZIMBABWE



### Proposed Policy on the Period Which an Intern Can Undertake Internship rotations

Section 90 (3) of the Health Professions Act (Chapter 27:19) provides that an Intern/ person registered on the Register of Vocational Trainees shall have his name erased from such a Register after a period of 30 months from the date of such registration unless he satisfies Council to cause the period of training to be extended.

#### Introduction

Internship is part of the training of a doctor. Medicine/Dentistry is dynamic hence the practitioner needs to be in constant practice to maintain knowledge and skills. Periods spent outside practice leads to a deterioration of knowledge and skills. Re-orientation is critical in recognition of the interest of public safety as well as the doctor. In line with the above provision, it is necessary for Council to be satisfied that the respective doctor is adequately trained and acquire necessary skills and knowledge in the interest of the public.

#### Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of the Policy is to ensure safe practice by defining the period under which a medical/dental graduate who does not undertake internship rotations post graduation resume practice.

#### Policy

##### 1. Interns who do not undertake internship rotations for a period exceeding 5 years:

- 1.1. For those Interns who do not undertake internship for any reason of a period exceeding 5 years, they will be required to reorient in the 5<sup>th</sup> year medical/dental training programme.
- 1.2. On completion of the fifth year they will be required to sit a Council examination after which they will then proceed to undertake internship rotations.

##### 2. Interns who do not undertake internship for a period of up to 5 years:-

- 2.1 will apply for registration and be registered to undertake internship.
- 2.2 Upon registration the Intern will be required to follow the same Internship structure as the other Interns.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
16/6/15

12/05/2015